

In the claims

1. (Currently Amended) A paint roller cleaner ~~characterized in that it includes~~ comprising:

a cylindrical housing having an opening adapted to receive a paint roller, said opening having associated therewith an outer flange portion for removing paint from said paint roller, and said cylindrical housing being a very close fit around said paint roller for removing further paint therefrom, said removal of paint constituting a first cleaning action on said paint roller, and

external locking means for securing said paint roller in said cylindrical housing, said external locking means attaching to a handle of said paint roller, whereby said paint roller is restrained from movement relative to the housing by the locking means; and whereby cleaning fluid is introduced into the housing under pressure to thereby effect a second cleaning action on said paint roller.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking means includes a hook member designed to lock around and restrain a the handle of a the paint roller thereby securing the roller with respect to the cleaner for use.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking means is located close to the opening of the

housing in which the paint roller is received.

4. (Currently Amended) A The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking means is a hook which is upstanding from an outer surface of the housing and generally in line axially therewith, said hook being formed by said walls upstanding from the outer surface of the housing and curving around to join one another thereby forming the hook end portion.

5. (Currently Amended) A The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking means is a snap fit locking means.

6. (Currently Amended) A The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said flange portion is positioned perpendicular to the axis of the housing.

7. (Currently Amended) A The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an outer edge of the flange portion has a semi-circular indent serving as a scraper that may be used to remove excess paint held in a roller before the roller is inserted into the housing.

8. (Currently Amended) A The paint roller cleaner according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said cleaner further includes a pressure relief means.

9. (Currently Amended) A The paint roller cleaner according to claim 8,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said pressure relief means includes a vent opening closed
by a plug, said plug being able to be released by pressure within the housing.